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**System and Method for Secure Network  
State Management and Single Sign-On**

**ABSTRACT**

State management (cookie) data is encrypted so that  
5 access control data included in the cookie is unable to be  
modified by the user. A hashing algorithm is performed  
using various fields in the cookie data and the hash value  
is encrypted. The hash value is combined with other data  
such as the user identifier and a time stamp and encrypted  
10 to form a cookie value. When a request is received, the  
cookie data is checked. If the token value is not in the  
server's cache then the token is authenticated facilitating  
movement of the client between servers. If the cookie does  
not exist or is timed out, then the user is authenticated  
15 using traditional means.